IN THE CLAIMS:

~~1-32. (canceled)~~

1 ~~33~~. (currently amended)   A method for producing a keyword dictionary using a computer, comprising the steps of:

inputting a user's necessity or a user's non-necessity for each of pieces of information data, a keyword or a plurality of keywords being attached to each of the pieces of information data;

calculating a summed necessity value relating to the user's necessities inputted for the pieces of information data, to which one keyword is attached, for each of the keywords;

calculating a summed non-necessity value relating to the user's non-necessities inputted for the pieces of information data, to which one keyword is attached, for each of the keywords;

calculating a difference between the summed necessity value and the summed non-necessity value for each of the keywords;

calculating a prediction value predicting a user's necessity degree for each of a ~~plurality of~~ the keywords ~~attached to the pieces of information data~~ according to ~~the user's necessities and the user's non-necessities for the pieces of information data and~~ the differences, respectively, relating to the keywords ~~attached to the pieces of information data~~; and

assigning each calculated prediction value to the corresponding keyword.

2 ~~34~~. (previously presented) The method of claim ~~33~~ **1**, wherein the prediction value *Qu. in 2/23/05* assigned to each ~~keyboard~~ keyword takes either a positive value or a negative value.

3 ~~35~~. (currently amended)   The method of claim ~~33~~ **1**, wherein the step of ~~calculating the prediction value includes the step of~~
~~calculating each prediction value assigned to the corresponding keyword from~~
~~information of keywords attached to one or more pieces of information data, for which~~
~~the user's necessities are inputted, and information of keywords attached to the other~~
~~pieces of information data for which the user's non-necessities are inputted~~

calculating the summed necessity value includes the steps of:

calculating a frequency of the user's necessities inputted for the pieces of information data, to which one keyword is attached, for each of the keywords; and

setting the frequency as the summed necessity value, and the step of calculating the summed non-necessity value includes the steps of:

calculating a frequency of the user's non-necessities inputted for the pieces of information data, to which one keyword is attached, for each of the keywords; and

setting the frequency as the summed non-necessity value.

4 ~~36~~. (previously presented) The method of claim ~~35~~ 3, wherein the prediction value *JUc. n. 4/23/95* assigned to each ~~keyboard~~ *keyword* takes either a positive value or a negative value.

5 ~~37~~. (currently amended) The method of claim ~~36~~ 1, wherein the step of calculating the summed necessity value includes the steps of:

calculating a frequency of the user's necessities inputted for the pieces of information data, to which one keyword is attached, for each of the keywords; and

setting the frequency as the summed necessity value,

the step of calculating the summed non-necessity value includes the steps of:

calculating a frequency of the user's non-necessities inputted for the pieces of information data, to which one keyword is attached, for each of the keywords; and

setting the frequency as the summed non-necessity value,

and

the step of calculating the prediction value includes the step of calculating each prediction value assigned to the corresponding keyword from a frequency of the user's necessities for all the pieces of information data, a frequency of the user's non-necessities for all the pieces of information data, ~~information of keywords attached to one or more pieces of information data for which the user's necessities are inputted, and information of keywords attached to the other pieces of information data for which the user's non-necessities are inputted~~ and the difference relating to the corresponding keyword.

6 38. (previously presented) The method of claim 37, wherein the prediction value
assigned to each keyboard takes either a positive value or a negative value.
keyword

7 39. (previously presented) The method of claim 38, further including the step of registering each prediction value with the corresponding keyword to a dictionary.

—40-41. cancelled.—

9 42. (currently amended)   An apparatus for producing a keyword dictionary, comprising:

input means for inputting a user's necessity or a user's non-necessity for each of pieces of information data, a keyword or a plurality of keywords being attached to each of the pieces of information data;

summed value calculating means for calculating a summed necessity value relating to the user's necessities inputted for the pieces of information data, to which one keyword is attached, for each of the keywords, and calculating a summed non-necessity value relating to the user's non-necessities inputted for the pieces of information data, to which one keyword is attached, for each of the keywords;

difference calculating means for calculating a difference between the summed necessity value and the summed non-necessity value for each of the keywords;

calculating means for calculating a prediction value predicting a user's necessity degree for each of a plurality of the keywords attached to the pieces of information data according to the user's necessities and the user's non-necessities for the pieces of information data and the differences, respectively, relating to the keywords attached to the pieces of information data; and

assigning means for assigning each prediction value calculated by the calculating means to the corresponding keyword.

Δφ 43. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 42, wherein each prediction value assigned to the corresponding keyword by the assigning means takes a positive value or a negative value.

4

9

44. (currently amended)   The apparatus of claim 42, wherein ~~each prediction value assigned to the corresponding keyword is calculated from information of keywords attached to one or more pieces of information data, for which the user's necessities are inputted, and information of keywords attached to the other pieces of information data for which the user's non-necessities are inputted~~ the summed value calculating means comprises:

means for calculating a frequency of the user's necessities inputted for the pieces of information data, to which one keyword is attached, for each of the keywords, and setting the frequency as the summed necessity value; and

means for calculating a frequency of the user's non-necessities inputted for the pieces of information data, to which one keyword is attached, for each of the keywords, and setting the frequency as the summed non-necessity value.

44

45. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 44, wherein each prediction value assigned to the corresponding keyword by the assigning means takes a positive value or a negative value.

9

46. (currently amended)   The apparatus of claim 42, wherein the summed value calculating means comprises:

means for calculating a frequency of the user's necessities inputted for the pieces of information data, to which one keyword is attached, for each of the keywords, and setting the frequency as the summed necessity value; and

means for calculating a frequency of the user's non-necessities inputted for the pieces of information data, to which one keyword is attached, for each of the keywords, and setting the frequency as the summed non-necessity value, and
the calculating means includes

means for calculating each prediction value assigned to the corresponding keyword ~~is calculated~~ from a frequency of the user's necessities for all the pieces of information data, a frequency of the user's non-necessities for all the pieces of information data, ~~information of keywords attached to one or more pieces of information~~

~~data for which the user's necessities are inputted, and information of keywords attached to the other pieces of information data for which the user's non-necessities are inputted~~ and the difference relating to the corresponding keyword.

Δ4 47. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 46, wherein each prediction value assigned to the corresponding keyword by the assigning means takes a positive value or a negative value.

~~48-49 cancelled.~~

Δ5 50. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 42, further comprising:

a dictionary for registering each prediction value with the corresponding keyword to a dictionary.

8 51. (new) The method of claim 33, wherein the step of inputting a user's necessity or a user's non-necessity comprises:

inputting one user's necessity for each of the pieces of information data when the piece of information data is necessary for the user; and

inputting one user's non-necessity for each of the pieces of information data when the piece of information data is unnecessary for the user.

Δ6 52. (new) The apparatus of claim 42, wherein the input means comprises:

means for inputting one user's necessity for each of pieces of information data when the piece of information data is necessary for the user; and

means for inputting one user's non-necessity for each of the pieces of information data when the piece of information data is unnecessary for the user.

6